



# BX2631

## 2011-16 Ford F350

### Installation Instructions

**Attachment Tab Height: 22-1/4"**

**Attachment Tab Width: 31-7/8"**

**Serial Number**

**Please read BOTH these Installation Instructions and the General Information sheet prior to installing or operating this equipment.**

1. Blue Ox® towing products and accessories are intended to be installed by Blue Ox® Dealers who are familiar with our products and have the equipment and knowledge necessary to do "fit work". If needed, Blue Ox® Dealers can be found at [www.blueox.com](http://www.blueox.com) or by contacting our Technical Service Department at (402) 385-3051.
2. Many Blue Ox® baseplates are designed to use existing holes and hardware to mount the baseplate to the towed vehicle. Even though bolts are there, do not assume they are adequate for baseplate mounting. Always use the hardware supplied in the hardware kit and existing hardware as specified in the installation instructions.



If the front of your vehicle looks different than this, please contact us at (402)385-3051.

**Reference your vehicle owner's manual for manufacturer's towing specifications.**

#### **Bolt Torque Specifications**

Torque in Foot-Pounds for Inch Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 5	Grade 8
1/4"	10	14
5/16"	19	29
3/8"	33	47
7/16"	54	78
1/2"	78	119
5/8"	154	230
3/4"	257	380

#### **Bolt Torque Specifications**

Torque in Foot-Pounds for Metric Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 8.8	Grade 10.9
6MM	6	8
8MM	16	22
10MM	31	40
12MM	54	70
14MM	89	117
16MM	161	230
18MM	222	318



## **WARNING**

Failure to read and follow these instructions could result in separation of the towed vehicle from the tow bar, causing property damage, loss of towed vehicle, personal injury or death.

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**Instruction Notes:** The fascia and lower valance are removed and reinstalled for the baseplate installation. Some drilling and trimming is required. If equipped with tow hooks they must be removed and not reinstalled.

Place all components that are removed on a flat, sturdy surface. All items will be reinstalled unless otherwise noted after the baseplate is installed.

The dimensional variations between otherwise identical vehicles can be considerable. While the baseplate was designed for easy installation, it may be necessary to tailor the baseplate slightly to compensate for vehicle manufacturer's tolerances.

The BX8848 4-Diode Wiring Kit is recommended for this vehicle.

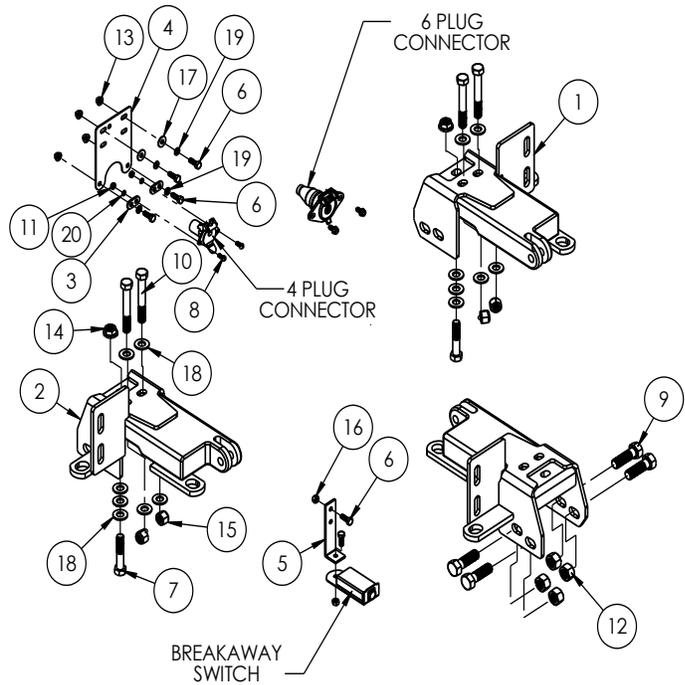
## ***NOTICE***

- Handling of some cosmetic parts when installing this product may require the use of protective covers, rags, specialty tools, etc. to prevent damage.
- When using power drills be aware of the dangers of torque and drill bit length.
- When using a reciprocating saw be aware of objects behind the cutting surface.
- Use a good quality paint to spray cut edges of frame to prevent rusting.
- Be sure that **ALL** electrical connections are plugged in and accessories are functioning properly before reinstalling the fascia.
- The baseplate is computer tested to your vehicle's GVWR, exceeding this weight will void the manufacturer's warranty.
- Be sure to use a sufficient amount of Loctite® Red on all bolt threads before tightening. Tighten all bolts according to the torque chart provided.
- Dealer or installer be certain the user receives these instruction sheets.
- If the baseplate is in an accident, it must be replaced. **DO NOT** use it again! An accident can cause unseen damage and using it again could result in more damage or serious injury. **DO NOT** use the baseplate if it is damaged or missing parts.

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**Tools Required**

13MM Socket  
 Torque Wrench  
 15MM Socket  
 Tape Measure  
 18MM Socket  
 Drill  
 3/4" Socket/Wrench  
 17/32" Drill Bit  
 15/16" Socket/Wrench  
 5/16" Drill Bit  
 Large Vise Grips  
 21/32" Drill Bit  
 Flat Screwdriver  
 5/8" Drill Bit  
 Loctite® RED



Item No.	Part No.	Description	Qty.
1.....	61-6865 .....	BX2631 Baseplate, Driver Side .....	1
2.....	61-6866 .....	BX2631 Baseplate, Passenger Side.....	1
3.....	101-5822 .....	4 Way Connector Adapter .....	2
4.....	101-6739 .....	Electrical Bracket .....	1
5.....	102-7186 .....	Breakaway Bracket.....	1
6.....	201-0050 .....	1/4"-20 x 3/4" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 5, ZP.....	6
7.....	201-0153 .....	1/2"-13 x 2-1/2" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 8, ZP.....	2
8.....	201-0192 .....	#10-32 1/2" Round Slotted Head Screw .....	2
9.....	201-0351 .....	5/8"-11 x 2" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 5, ZP .....	4
10.....	201-0369 .....	1/2"-13 x 3-1/2" Hex Head Bolt, Grade 5, ZP.....	4
11.....	202-0047 .....	#10-32 Hex Nut.....	2
12.....	202-0064 .....	5/8"-11 Hex Nylon Insert Lock Nut, ZP.....	4
13.....	202-0069 .....	1/4"-20 Hex Flange Whiz Lock Nut, ZP.....	4
14.....	202-0072 .....	1/2"-13 Hex Flange Whiz Lock Nut, ZP.....	2
15.....	202-0094 .....	1/2"-13 Hex Nylon Insert Lock Nut, ZP .....	4
16.....	202-0102 .....	1/4"-20 Hex Nylon Insert Nut, ZP .....	2
17.....	203-0001 .....	1/4" Flat Washer, ZP .....	2
18.....	203-0005 .....	1/2" Flat Washer, ZP .....	14
19.....	203-0008 .....	1/4" Lock Washer, ZP.....	4
20.....	203-0054 .....	#10 Lock Washer .....	2
21 (not shown).....	226-0049 .....	36" Class IV Baseplate Safety Cable.....	2
22 (not shown).....	229-0512 .....	1/2" Quicklink , ZP.....	2
23 (not shown).....	290-0437 .....	Black Cap Plug Receiver .....	2

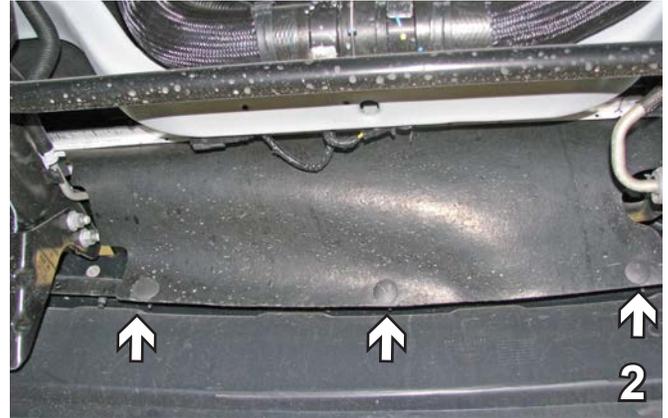
**Important:**

Use only genuine factory replacement parts on your baseplate. Do **NOT** substitute homemade or non-typical parts. If a bolt is lost or in need of replacement, for your safety and the preservation of your baseplate, be sure to use a replacement bolt of the same grade (In most cases it will be Grade 5, please reference the parts list above). Replacement parts may be ordered through your nearest Blue Ox® Dealer or Distributor. Failing to follow and/or altering these installation instructions in either installation or required equipment will void the manufacturer's warranty. Towing behind a non-motorized vehicle will void the warranty.

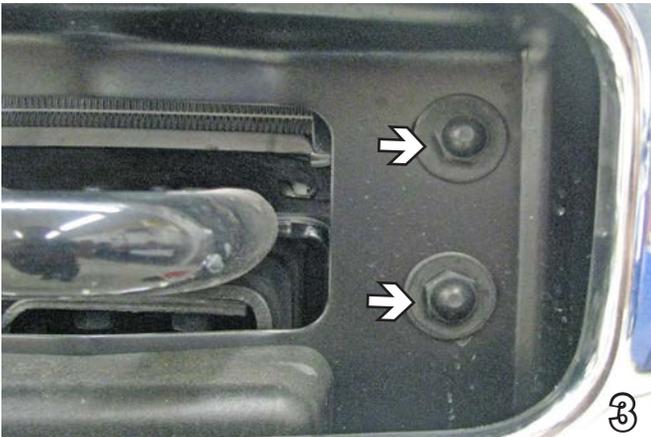
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1. Using a 13MM socket, remove two metric bolts located just forward of the front tire. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts aside to be reinstalled later.

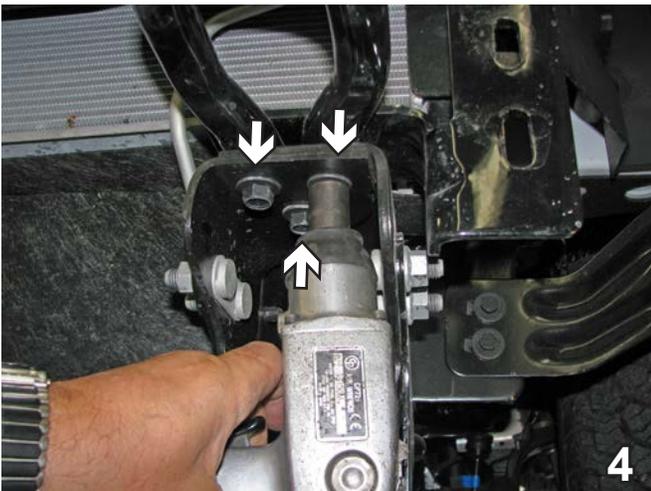


2. Remove three push pins from the bottom edge of the plastic cover. Set cover and push pins aside to be reinstalled later.



3. Using an 18MM socket, remove the two bolts on the side of the bumper. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set the bolts and the bumper aside to be reinstalled later.

**NOTE:** If some vehicles have a heater core element plug, the Christmas tree pin will need to be released on the passenger side (see gray arrow on step 16).

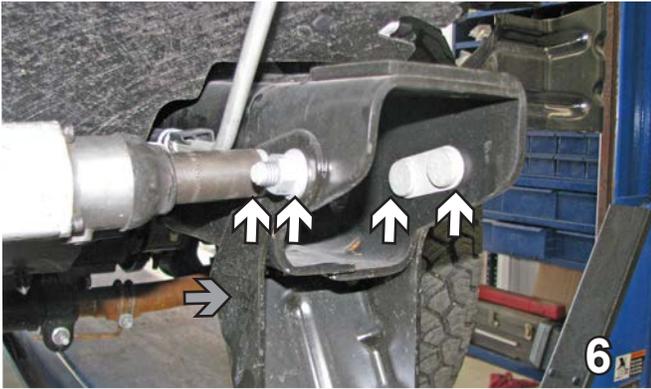


4. Remove the tow hook by removing the three bolts underneath it using a 15MM socket. Set tow hooks and bolts aside--they will not be used again. Use a 17/32" drill bit to ream the two front holes. Do this on both sides.



5. On the driver's side, it will be necessary to pull the Christmas tree pin from the coolant line bracket that goes into the frame in order to position the baseplate. It will be reinstalled later.

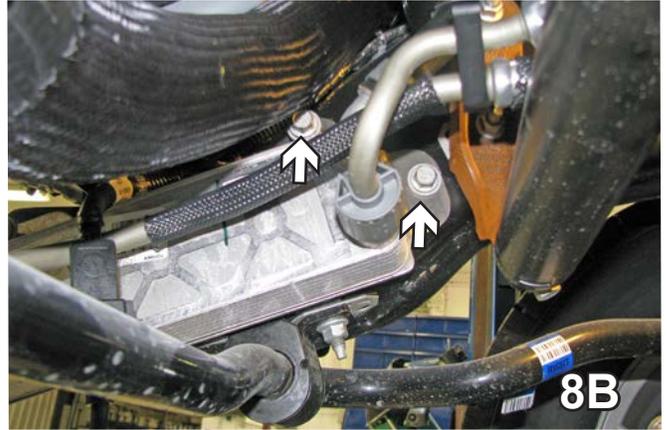
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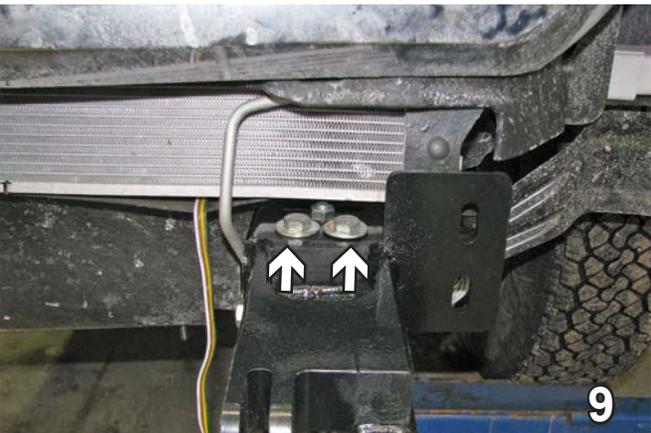
6. Using an 18MM socket, remove the two bolts on each side of the bumper support. Do this on both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts and support aside to be reinstalled later.



7. On the passenger side, on the back bottom of the lower radiator, remove the push pin from the rubber air dam. Set the pin and the air dam aside to be reinstalled later.



8. Using a 13MM socket remove the three metric bolts from the coolant transfer box on the passenger side to be reinstalled later. Pull the box out of the way so that the side holes can be drilled in step 12 using the baseplate as a template.

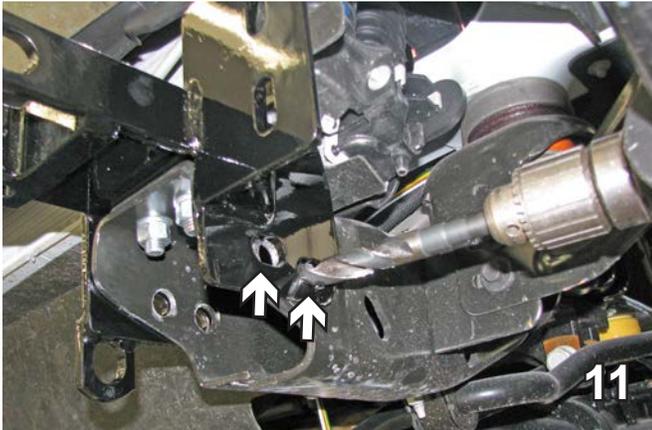


9. Slide the baseplate over the frame rail, tabs to the inside. Align with the top holes. Insert 1/2-13 x 3 1/2" hex bolts with 1/2" flat washers on the top and bottom and 1/2-13 hex nuts in the front holes. Do this on both sides. Tighten with Loctite Red.

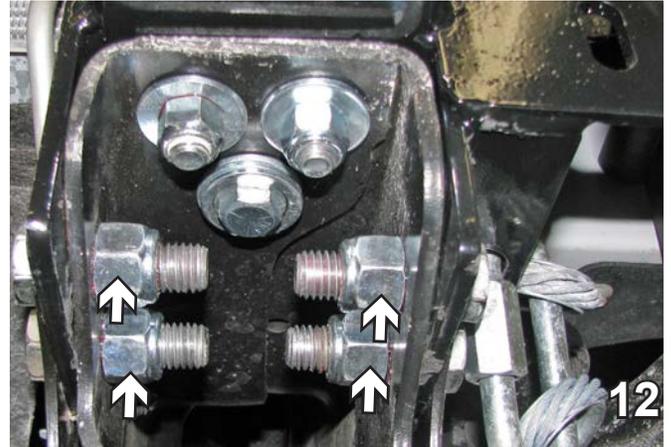


10. Insert 1/2-13 x 2 1/2" hex bolt into the back hole bottom side up with three 1/2" flat washers on the bottom and attaches with a 1/2-13 whiz nut on the top side. Do this on both sides. Tighten with Loctite Red.

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11. With the baseplate as a template, use a 5/8" drill bit to ream out the holes on both sides of the frame rail if needed. Do this on both sides of the vehicle.

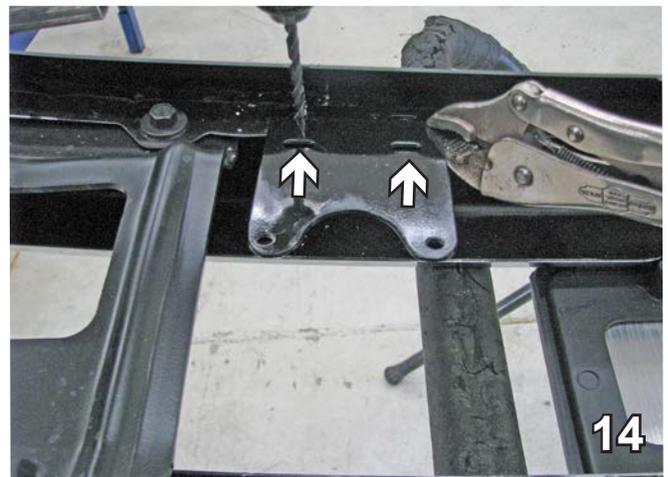


12. Slide the lower support bumper brace (removed in step 7) over the baseplate to align with the reamed holes. The brace may need to be widened to fit. Tighten all four 5/8-11 x 2" bolts attached to 5/8-11 hex nuts on the inside. Use Loctite Red on all bolts. Do this on both sides.

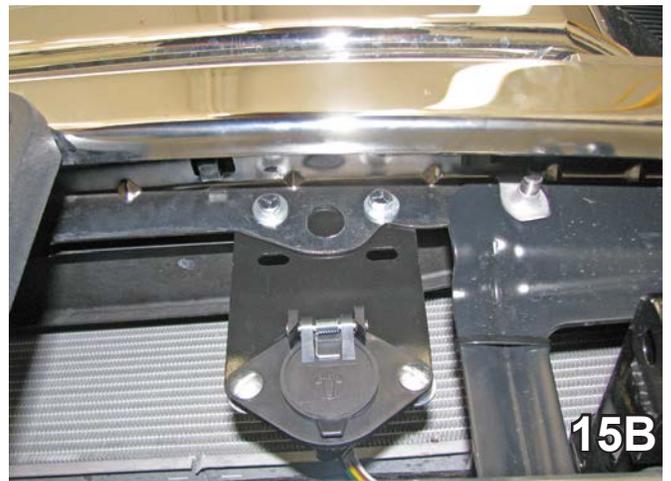
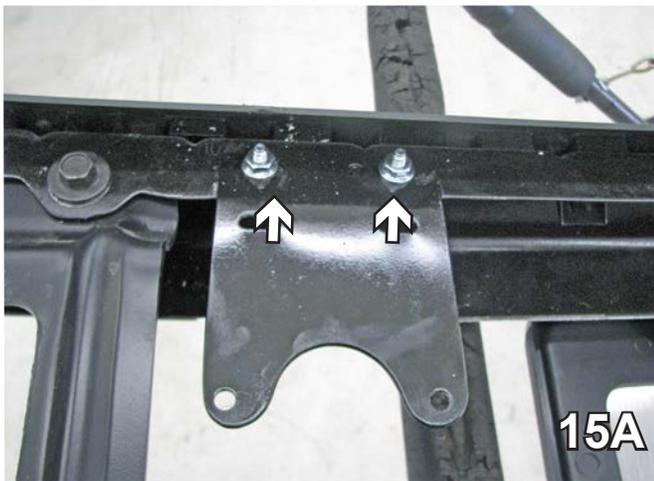


13. Attach the permanent baseplate safety cables to the provided convenience link on the baseplate. The photo shows the recommended installation of the cables to frame of vehicle. Additional options may interfere with suggested mounting; in this case, secure the cables to a solid piece of the frame as described in the General Information sheet. Be sure the safety cables do not rub against any hoses or moving parts. Do this on BOTH sides of the vehicle.

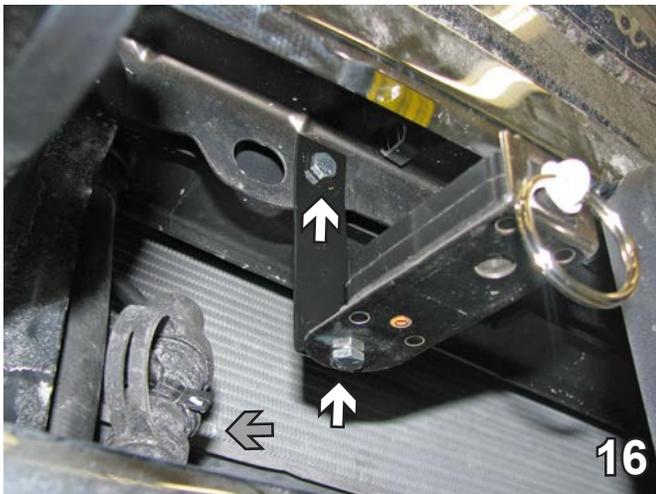
14. Place the metal bumper face down. Position the electrical bracket over the two existing holes on the inside top driver's side. Drill out the hole on the left using a 5/16" drill bit.



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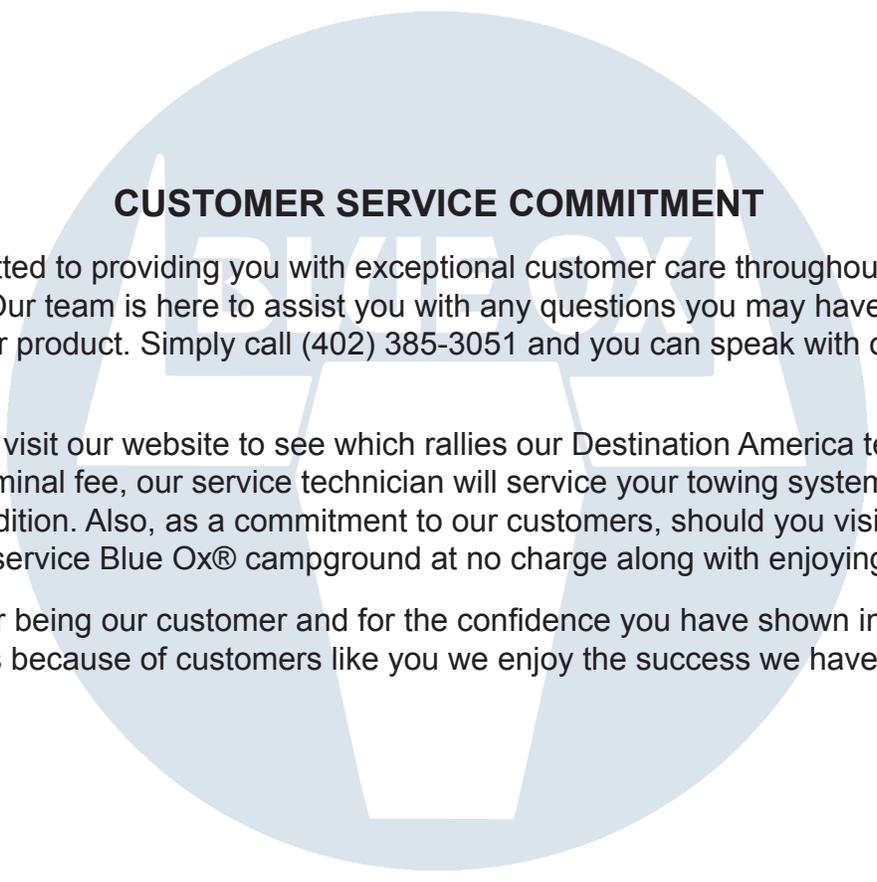


15. Install 1/4-20 x 3/4" bolts with 1/4" flat washers, 1/4" lock washers and 1/4-20 whiz nuts. Reinstall the air dam, coolant transfer box, Christmas tree pins, heat core plug, bumper, cover, push pins, bolts and reconnect wiring.



16. **Optional:** Install the breakaway bracket in the existing hole on the passenger side next to the license plate. Insert a 1/4-20 x 3/4" hex bolt with 1/4-20 hex nut. Also attach the breakaway to the bracket with a 1/4-20 x 3/4" hex bolt with 1/4-20 hex nut.

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A large, light blue watermark of the Blue Ox logo is centered on the page. The logo consists of a stylized ox head profile inside a circle, with the words "BLUE OX" written across it in a bold, sans-serif font.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE COMMITMENT**

Blue Ox® is committed to providing you with exceptional customer care throughout your lifetime with our products. Our team is here to assist you with any questions you may have regarding the performance of your product. Simply call (402) 385-3051 and you can speak with our technical service team.

Additionally, please visit our website to see which rallies our Destination America team will be attending. For a nominal fee, our service technician will service your towing system to ensure it's in proper working condition. Also, as a commitment to our customers, should you visit our factory, you can stay at our full service Blue Ox® campground at no charge along with enjoying a factory tour.

Again, thank you for being our customer and for the confidence you have shown in the performance of our products. It is because of customers like you we enjoy the success we have today.

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# General Information

1. Ensure that your product(s) are registered online at [www.blueox.com](http://www.blueox.com). It is crucial to register your product(s) so that you may be alerted of product offerings, updates, upgrades, maintenance and safety bulletins, and/or recalls.
2. **It is the owner's responsibility to inspect all towing equipment for cracked welds, missing or worn parts and loose bolts before each towing trip.** Be sure to use Loctite® Red on all bolts and tighten to the recommended specifications.
3. **It is the owner's responsibility to hook up all towing equipment per manufacturer's instructions/recommendations.**
4. Remove the attachment tabs when not in use (if applicable).

## Notice To Baseplate Installer

### 1. It is YOUR responsibility to watch for:

- Oil cooler and air conditioner lines
- Electrical wires and hoses
- Missing parts or attaching points on the frame

\*\* If the baseplate is improperly installed and is against a wire or hose, it could cause fluid leaks or electrical shorts some time after the actual baseplate installation.

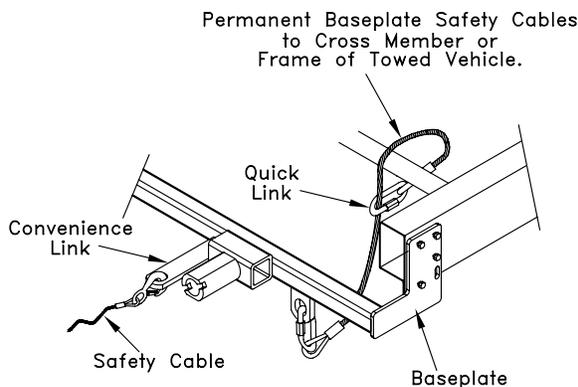
## Permanent Baseplate Safety Cable Installation

Permanent baseplate safety cables are strongly recommended when towing a vehicle with a tow bar. The principle function of the permanent baseplate safety cables is to prevent the towed vehicle from breaking loose in the event the connection between the frame of the towed vehicle and the baseplate fails or becomes disconnected. The cables must be connected from the baseplate to the frame rail or cross member of the vehicle's frame. The illustrations below show the possible arrangements recommended by Blue Ox®. Each permanent baseplate safety cable must have an adequate weight rating for the towing system. The weight rating of the two (2) cables together will not qualify.

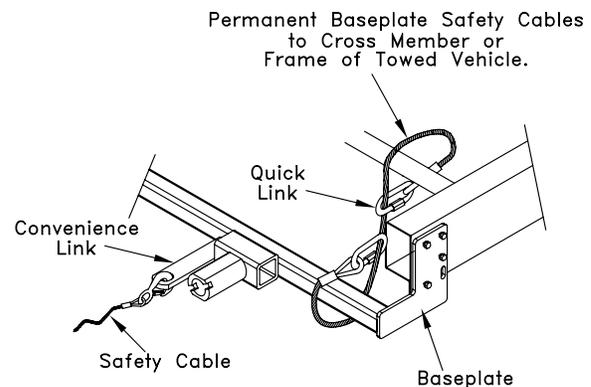
***Do not mount the permanent baseplate safety cables against wires, hoses or brake lines.***

These permanent baseplate safety cables should remain installed as long as the baseplate is installed on the vehicle. Permanent baseplate safety cables are to be used in conjunction with, and NOT a replacement for legally required safety cables attaching the towed vehicle to the towing vehicle.

### OPTION #1



### OPTION #2



# BLUE OX ORIGINAL PURCHASERS THREE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

Automatic Equipment Manufacturing Company ("Automatic") warrants to the original (first) retail purchaser that this product, manufactured by Automatic, shall be free from defect in material and workmanship under normal use and service for a period of three years from the date of delivery.

During said three-year period, Automatic will repair or replace any parts that have been returned by the original purchaser, to the factory, transportation prepaid, and in Automatic's sole and absolute opinion found to be defective.

Limitations on Warranty Coverage:

Coverage under this warranty will be valid only if the customer warranty card is returned by the original purchaser within 30 days of purchase.

Coverage under this warranty will be effective only when a copy of the original invoice, showing date and place of purchase, accompanies any claim for warranty. This warranty is NON TRANSFERABLE.

This limited warranty will not cover, in any way or form, any alleged damages caused by incorrect or improper installation, improper use, modification or neglect of product, failure to properly service and maintain, misuse, act of God, accident or failure of the user to follow guidelines contained in the instructional material provided by Automatic.

This warranty does not cover normal wear and tear, paint or rust.

Warrantor assumes no responsibility to the owner for loss of use of product, loss of time, inconvenience or any other damage consequential or otherwise. Including, but not limited to mileage, expense of transporting of product, return shipping expense, mechanics travel time, telephone, road service, towing, and rental during repairs, travel, lodging, loss or damage to personal property or loss of earnings.

**REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT AS SET FORTH IN THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS THE SOLE EXCLUSIVE REMEDY OF THE PURCHASER. AUTOMATIC SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY ON THIS PRODUCT. EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT PROHIBITED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ON THIS PRODUCT IS LIMITED IN LENGTH TO THE DURATION OF THIS WARRANTY.**

Please visit <http://blueox.com/warranty/> to register your warranty

